

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) issued the following statement after the Department of Labor reported this morning that the economy added zero jobs in the month of August and unemployment remained at 9.1 percent:

“This abysmal August jobs report underscores the urgent need for a change in direction in Washington, from a big-government, big-spending agenda to a pro-growth, pro-jobs approach.

“Government doesn’t create jobs – small businesses do. When I talk to small business owners in Florida, they don’t ask for a handout; they ask Washington to get out of their way. House Republicans have passed [bill after bill](#) to help create an environment where the private sector can grow and create jobs, but the Democrats who control the Senate and White House have done nothing since their failed stimulus to help small businesses produce jobs. The American people deserve a new approach.

“When the President addresses Congress next week, he has the opportunity to show the American people, particularly small business owners, that he has heard their cries for relief from the burdensome overreach of Washington. I hope he will not call for more stimulus spending, since we have seen that gets us nothing but more debt. Instead, I hope President Obama agrees to work with us to [reduce regulation, provide permanent relief, and give business owners the certainty they need to grow and create jobs](#).

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